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Security Council

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Letter dated 29 July 2002 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Counter-Terrorism Committee has received the attached report from the Comoros, submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001) (see annex).

I should be grateful if you could arrange for this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jeremy **Greenstock**
Chairman
Counter-Terrorism Committee

02-51738 (E) 040902 100902

Annex

Note verbale dated 19 July 2002 from the Permanent Mission of the Comoros to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

The Permanent Mission of the Union of Comoros to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism and has the honour to submit the report of the Comorian Government requested by the Security Council in its resolution 1373 (2001) (see enclosure).

Enclosure

[Original: French]

Report of the Union of the Comoros on the steps taken pursuant to United Nations Security Council resolution 1373 (2001)

The Comorian people felt acute indignation at the terrible attacks committed on 11 September 2001 in the United States.

On that dark day for all humanity, when thousands of human lives were cut short, buried under tons of steel and concrete by the most despicable and barbarous actions of madmen, the (then) Head of State Colonel Azali Assoumani took immediate action and wrote, on behalf of the Comorian people and Government, to his American counterpart, George W. Bush, offering sincere condolences and sympathy to him, his Government and the American people.

That same day, a communiqué from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation strongly condemned those ignoble acts and reaffirmed the Comorians' solidarity with the suffering American people.

Fully aligning itself with the international community in the fight against terrorism and as a follow-up to United Nations Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 concerning international terrorism, the Comorian Government has adopted a comprehensive series of measures in the diplomatic, legal, security and even financial spheres.

I. Diplomatic measures

The Head of State, Colonel Azali Assoumani, has instructed the Prime Minister, Mr. Hamada Madi, to set up an emergency national interministerial body responsible for permanently monitoring events so that the Head of State and the Government may be informed of developments in good time.

That body, under the authority of the Prime Minister, is composed of high-level public servants from the Office of the Head of State, the Office of the Prime Minister, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Finance and Budget, the Ministry of Transport, Tourism and Telecommunications, the Ministry of Information and the Chief of Staff of the National Development Army.

In addition, the Head of State welcomed the initiative of the President of Senegal, Abdoulaye Wade, to hold an African conference on international terrorism in Dakar from 15 to 17 October 2001. A large delegation of high-level representatives led by the Head of State himself took an active part in the work of that conference.

Furthermore, the Head of State also instructed the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation to explain the Comorian Government's official position on terrorism to our friends and partners.

The Comorian Government wholeheartedly condemns terrorism, considering it an entirely unjustifiable and barbarous act, and strongly rejects all attempts to establish a link between terrorism and Islam.

In that context, a mission led by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Mr. Souef Mohamed El-Amine, participated in the 9th Extraordinary Foreign Ministers' Summit of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in Doha on 9 and 10 October 2001, which was devoted to examining the repercussions of the attacks of 11 September in New York and Washington.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation reaffirmed to his Muslim counterparts the determination of the Comoros to fight all forms of terrorism and categorically rejected all attempts to establish a link between terrorism and Islam, a religion whose essence is tolerance.

Within the framework of the League of Arab States, of which the Comoros currently holds the rotating presidency, the Comoros stands resolutely alongside its fellow Arab nations in the fight against terrorism.

At the fifty-sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, addressing the plenary Assembly, reiterated the Comorian Government's total and utter condemnation of terrorism and called for international action to fight against the phenomenon.

Within the framework of the Indian Ocean Commission, of which the meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs took place in Mauritius on 22 and 23 February 2002, the Comoros is actively working to develop a joint strategy to combat terrorism in the subregion.

II. Legal measures

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation is working in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice with a view to proposing to the Government an update of certain provisions of the Criminal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure in order to enable the Comorian courts to suppress all forms of terrorism effectively.

The Ministry of Justice is currently working on a draft law concerning the prevention and suppression of terrorism, which is one of the priority texts to be submitted to the future Assembly of the Union of the Comoros.

In addition, while the institutions of the Union of the Comoros are still being set up, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation is endeavouring to gather together the majority of the international instruments to combat terrorism or relating to terrorism in order to propose the accession of the Comoros to them.

Thus, many international instruments signed but not yet ratified by the Comoros and other agreements to which the Comoros is not yet a party have been gathered together to be submitted to the Assembly of the Union as soon as it becomes operational.

Those instruments include:

- The Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft, signed at Tokyo on 14 September 1963;

- The Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, signed at Montreal on 23 September 1971 and the 1984 Protocol to that Convention;
- The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 14 December 1973;
- The International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 17 December 1979;
- The Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, signed at Montreal on 24 February 1988;
- The Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation, done at Rome on 10 March 1988;
- The International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 15 December 1997;
- The International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 9 December 1999;
- The Convention of the Organization of African Unity on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism, adopted at Algiers on 14 July 1999.

III. Security measures

Following the terrorist attacks of 11 September, special, direct measures were taken to strengthen security and surveillance in airport and port immigration services.

Thus, surveillance of sensitive areas has increased, night patrols by the national police and the gendarmerie have been stepped up and vigilance has been reinforced in order to improve protection of property and persons.

At Prince Said Ibrahim international airport, security has intensified and access is well controlled. The Comorian authorities are currently considering the establishment of a system of regional cooperation for the security and intelligence services to enable them to exchange information and mutual assistance.

In addition, an anti-terrorist unit has been set up and placed under the authority of the Prime Minister. The unit is responsible for obtaining all the information necessary to prevent terrorist acts and for coordinating operations to suppress such acts.

The anti-terrorist unit is headed by the Government Procurator before the Court of First Instance of Moroni and comprises executive personnel from the National Development Army, the National Police, the Central Bank and the customs services. Every two months, it must submit a general report on its activities to the Prime Minister.

In addition, a census of Comorian students and other nationals residing in at-risk countries is currently being taken by the Ministry of National Education and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation in collaboration with the Ministry's external services.

IV. Financial measures

The Minster of Finance, Budget and Privatization has given firm and clear instructions to banks regarding the strict monitoring of money transfers in order to prevent and track down any kind of terrorism financing. That is why executives from the Central Bank are members of the anti-terrorist unit.

Those measures arise from the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, to which the Comoros is a signatory.

Conclusion

All the above-mentioned provisions and measures are an expression of the Comorian Government's determination to fight vigorously against all forms of terrorism by joining with the entire international community to suppress terrorism worldwide.

In that spirit, the Comoros, a country known for its love of peace, is willing to implement all United Nations measures in order to participate in the fight against terrorism undertaken by the international community.

(*Signed*) Ahmed **Mlinde**
Deputy Secretary-General

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Letter dated 29 July 2002 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Counter-Terrorism Committee has received the attached report from Kenya, submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001) (see annex).

I should be grateful if you could arrange for the present letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jeremy **Greenstock**
Chairman
Counter-Terrorism Committee

02-51702 (E) 050902

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Annex

Note verbale dated 24 July 2002 from the Permanent Mission of Kenya to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the Security Council and, with reference to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001), has the honour to submit the report on measures taken by the Republic of Kenya towards the implementation of the resolution (see enclosure).

Enclosure

Report of the Republic of Kenya submitted to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001)

The position of Kenya on the fight against terrorism has been well elaborated in its Statements during the General Debate of the 56th Session of the UN General Assembly. As a country, Kenya has herself suffered the direct impact of terrorism having been a victim as recently as August 1998. Kenya has on many occasions condemned in the strongest terms the acts of terrorism in all their manifestations and called for intensified and comprehensive international cooperation in the fight against the scourge.

In the aftermath of the 11th September 2001 attacks, Kenya expressed its unequivocal solidarity with the United States of America and generously offered to join in any efforts aimed at bringing to justice the perpetrators of these attacks. Kenya has in subsequent months committed herself to facilitating international efforts in this respect and is currently assisting in ensuring the success of the on-going operation, "Enduring Freedom".

The adoption of the Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001) which constitutes a comprehensive attempt to fight terrorism globally is a welcome move for Kenya.

Legislative Measures

After September 2001, the Government of Kenya realised that the existing domestic legislative framework was inadequate to effectively deal with the multifaceted aspects of terrorism. The current provisions of anti-money laundering legislation, for example, were limited. The government has therefore initiated intensive measures to enhance the existing penal legislation in order to deal with all the aspects of terrorism.

In addition, administrative measures have been put in place by the Central Bank of Kenya to deal with the identification, tracing and freezing of financial assets belonging to persons identified with terrorist activities. In this respect the Central Bank of Kenya has issued instructions to Banks in Kenya to trace and freeze financial assets of organisations and persons so identified.

International Efforts

Kenya fully supports all efforts by the international community aimed at combating terrorism.

In this respect, Kenya has finalised the ratification process regarding the following international conventions covering directly or indirectly the subject of terrorism:

(i) Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft, Tokyo 1963

(ii) Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, The Hague 1970

(iii) Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the safety of Civil Aviation, Montreal 1971

(iv) International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, 1979

(v) Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation (supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation), Montreal 1988

(vi) Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the safety of Maritime Navigation, Rome 1988

(vii) Convention on the Physical Protection Of Nuclear Material, Vienna 1980

(viii) Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms located on the Continental Shelf, Rome 1988

(ix) Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the purpose of Detection, Montreal 1991

(x) International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, New York 1997

(ix) International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, New York 1999.

Kenya has also ratified the OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism, 2001.

Conclusion

The Government of Kenya is committed to joining forces with all governments at the bilateral level and recognises the significance of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001) in enhancing the existing efforts in the fight against terrorism.

The Resolution provides an important forum for cooperation and coordination of the efforts of the members of the international community. The Government of Kenya believes that early and full implementation of the Resolution is important. In line with this objective, Kenya intends to maintain close links with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and stands ready to provide any further constructive contribution and support.